

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A flow diverter valve assembly comprising:
a valve body defining a plurality of flow passageways;
a rotatable diverter cartridge positioned within said valve body, said rotatable diverter cartridge defining a plurality of detent recesses;
a cap assembled into said valve body and being positioned between said valve body and said rotatable diverter cartridge, said cap including at least one deflectable detent finger constructed and arranged to sequentially engage each of said plurality of detent recesses; and
means for manually rotating said rotatable diverter cartridge relative to said cap to change one detent engagement to another detent engagement, wherein each detent engagement corresponds to a different fluid flow selection.
2. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 1 wherein said rotatable diverter cartridge defines a flow inlet port and three flow outlet ports.
3. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 2 wherein said plurality of detent recesses includes six detent recesses.
4. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 3 wherein said cap includes a pair of deflectable detent fingers.
5. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 4 wherein said six detent recesses are circumferentially, equally spaced apart and said pair of deflectable detent fingers are equally spaced apart such that detent recess engagement by one detent finger occurs when the other detent finger engages another detent recess.

6. (Currently amended) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 5 wherein each deflectable detent finger includes a raised bump, said raised bump ~~being the portion of each deflectable detent finger that engages~~ engaging its corresponding detent recess.

7. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 6 which further includes an annular O-ring positioned between said cap and said valve body.

8. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 7 wherein said cap defines a pair of slots associated with each deflectable detent finger, each pair of said slots being positioned adjacent their corresponding deflectable detent finger.

9. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 8 wherein said cap defines a pair of arcuate O-ring grooves, each O-ring groove being positioned between said deflectable detent fingers.

10. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 1 wherein said plurality of detent recesses includes six detent recesses.

11. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 10 wherein said six detent recesses are circumferentially, equally spaced apart and said pair of deflectable detent fingers are equally spaced apart such that detent recess engagement by one detent finger occurs when the other detent finger engages another detent recess.

12. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 1 wherein said cap includes a pair of deflectable detent fingers.

13. (Currently amended) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 12 wherein each deflectable detent finger includes a raised bump, said raised bump ~~being the portion of each deflectable detent finger that engages~~ engaging its corresponding detent recess.

14. (Original) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 1 which further includes an annular O-ring positioned between said cap and said valve body.

15. (Currently amended) The flow diverter valve assembly of claim 14 wherein said cap includes at least two deflectable detent fingers and defines a pair of arcuate O-ring grooves, each O-ring groove being positioned between said deflectable detent fingers.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) A flow diverter valve assembly comprising:
a valve body defining a plurality of flow passageways;
a movable diverter cartridge positioned within said valve body, said movable diverter cartridge defining at least one detent recess;
a cap assembled into said valve body and being positioned between said valve body and said movable diverter cartridge, said cap including at least one movable detent projection constructed and arranged to engage said one detent recess; and
means for manually moving said movable diverter cartridge relative to said cap to disengage said movable detent projection from said at least one detent recess, wherein said detent engagement corresponds to a fluid flow selection..

18. (New) A flow diverter valve assembly comprising:
a valve body defining a plurality of flow passageways;
a rotatable diverter cartridge positioned within said valve body, said rotatable diverter cartridge defining a plurality of detent recesses;
a cap assembled into said valve body and being positioned between said valve body and said rotatable diverter cartridge, said cap including at least one deflectable detent finger constructed and arranged to sequentially engage each of said plurality of detent recesses;
wherein each deflectable detent finger includes a raised bump, said raised bump being the portion of each deflectable detent finger that engages its corresponding detent recess;
and

means for manually rotating said rotatable diverter cartridge relative to said cap to change one detent engagement to another detent engagement, wherein each detent engagement corresponds to a different fluid flow selection.

19. (New) A flow diverter valve assembly comprising:

a valve body defining a plurality of flow passageways;

a rotatable diverter cartridge positioned within said valve body, said rotatable diverter cartridge defining six detent recesses, a flow inlet port, and three flow outlet ports;

a cap assembled into said valve body and being positioned between said valve body and said rotatable diverter cartridge, said cap including a pair of deflectable detent fingers constructed and arranged to sequentially engage each of said six detent recesses;

wherein each deflectable detent finger includes a raised bump, said raised bump being the portion of each deflectable detent finger that engages its corresponding detent recess; and

means for manually rotating said rotatable diverter cartridge relative to said cap to change one detent engagement to another detent engagement, wherein each detent engagement corresponds to a different fluid flow selection, wherein said six detent recesses are circumferentially, equally spaced apart and said pair of deflectable detent fingers are equally spaced apart such that detent recess engagement by one detent finger occurs when the other detent finger engages another detent recess.

20. (New) A flow diverter valve assembly comprising:

a valve body defining a plurality of flow passageways;

a rotatable diverter cartridge positioned within said valve body, said rotatable diverter cartridge defining a plurality of detent recesses;

a cap assembled into said valve body and being positioned between said valve body and said rotatable diverter cartridge, said cap including a pair of deflectable detent fingers constructed and arranged to sequentially engage each of said plurality of detent recesses, wherein each deflectable detent finger includes a raised bump, said raised bump being the portion of each deflectable detent finger that engages its corresponding detent recess; and

means for manually rotating said rotatable diverter cartridge relative to said cap to change one detent engagement to another detent engagement, wherein each detent engagement corresponds to a different fluid flow selection.

21. (New) A flow diverter valve assembly comprising:

a valve body defining a plurality of flow passageways;

a rotatable diverter cartridge positioned within said valve body, said rotatable diverter cartridge defining a plurality of detent recesses;

a cap assembled into said valve body and being positioned between said valve body and said rotatable diverter cartridge, said cap including a pair of deflectable detent fingers constructed and arranged to sequentially engage each of said plurality of detent recesses;

an annular O-ring positioned between said cap and said valve body, wherein said cap defines a pair of arcuate O-ring grooves, each O-ring groove being positioned between said deflectable detent fingers; and

means for manually rotating said rotatable diverter cartridge relative to said cap to change one detent engagement to another detent engagement, wherein each detent engagement corresponds to a different fluid flow selection.

22. (New) A flow diverter valve assembly comprising:

a valve body defining a plurality of flow passageways;

a rotatable diverter cartridge positioned within said valve body, said rotatable diverter cartridge defining a plurality of detent recesses;

a cap assembled into said valve body and being positioned between said valve body and said rotatable diverter cartridge, said cap including at least one deflectable detent finger constructed and arranged to sequentially engage each of said plurality of detent recesses, wherein said cap defines a pair of slots associated with each deflectable detent finger, each pair of said slots being positioned adjacent their corresponding deflectable detent finger; and

means for manually rotating said rotatable diverter cartridge relative to said cap to change one detent engagement to another detent engagement, wherein each detent engagement corresponds to a different fluid flow selection.

Amendment Response

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23. (New) A flow diverter valve assembly comprising:
a valve body defining an inlet port and a plurality of outlet ports;
a cartridge assembly assembled into said valve body, said cartridge assembly being constructed and arranged for managing water delivery to said plurality of outlet ports;
a movable inlet boss constructed and arranged for cooperating with said cartridge assembly and with said valve body, said inlet boss being engageable with said inlet port;
a first control member connected with said cartridge assembly for positioning said cartridge assembly in one of a plurality of flow selection positions; and
a second control member connected with said cartridge assembly for moving said inlet boss out of engagement with said inlet port for fluid delivery to all outlet ports of said plurality of outlet ports.